

## ABSTRACT

RESEARCH SUBJECT: Nurses' Perceptions Related to Family Presence during  
Resuscitation: A Multi-site Study

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Families frequently request to be present during the resuscitation of loved ones. Nurses are often the staff members who make decisions regarding family presence during resuscitation. Since research has not yet clarified the perceptions of nurses from diverse geographic areas regarding family presence during resuscitation, this study proposed to expand what was known about nurses' perceptions of risks, benefits, and confidence regarding families being present during resuscitation efforts. This project was a replication of Twibell et al.'s (2008) study, which was conducted in one Midwestern hospital. This study took place in three hospitals in a large southern state. The framework was based on Rogers' (1995) theory of diffusion of innovation. The convenience sample for this correlational study was 250 registered nurses. The instruments were the Family Presence Risk-Benefit Scale (Twibell et al.) and Family Presence Self-confidence Scale (Twibell et al.). Results provide an enhanced description of nurses' perceptions that may influence decisions regarding family presence during resuscitation. The information may give nurse educators and administrators guidance in developing policies and procedures for family presence during resuscitation.